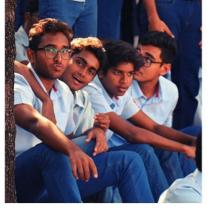
## MOIR SENIOR SCHOOL ELIZABETH













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## **EDITORS' NOTE**

Migara Rodrigo & Malak Naseem

It's not until you sit down and try to put together a record of Elizabeth Moir School's year that you realize just how much we, the students and staff, participate in. Despite the COVID - 19 pandemic making numerous changes (including our first online yearbook) a necessity, we have rallied to the challenge and ended the year on a high note. As a school, we have made our mark on the academics, sports and the arts, but our story does not end there. We wish we could tell all the tales of our school in these 49 pages but as always, some things get left out. For those stories that are not here, we apologize. A note of thanks to Ms. Tenduf-La and Ms. Hatch for supporting us while creating this publication, and coping with our missed deadlines. Enjoy!



## FAREWELL UPPER 6







## **Class Prize**

Form 1 - Savith Wijesundara

Form 2 - Tienn Kapilasena

Form 3 - Siddharth Jha

Form 4 - Arshana Welivita

Form 5 - Rugayyah Irshadeen

Lower 6 - Praneel Jasinghe

Upper 6 - Daniel Joung

## **Achievement Prizes**

Form 1 - Raveen Akuretiyagama & Maria Wijithananda

Form 2 - Malith Gunawardena & Anna Shearer

Form 3 - Kamille Le Berre & Miyu Otsuki

Form 4 - Amadie Gajanaike & Venumi Gamage

Form 5 - Hithara Kuruwita & Anokhi Moligoda

Lower 6 - Atheek Azmi & Amanda Wanigasinghe

Upper 6 - Taha Adamaly & Sachin Kaluarachchi

## **Merit Prize**

Form 1 - Louisa Deemer & Jeffry Withanachchi

Form 2 - Hannah Nallathamby & Savaira Sammoon

Form 3 - Kavya Chandrasiri & Hyejeong Kang

Form 4 - Malaika Sequeira & Dineth Wijayawardana

Form 5 - Sishir Surjit & Pasindu Wickramasinghe

Lower 6 - Ruya Hameed & Jinali Jithendra

Upper 6 - Sadhvi Surendhran & Hazia Hassen

## Subject Prizes

Lower 6 Math - Ramidu Jayasekera

Upper 6 Math - Kashyapa Jayasekera

Lower 6 Science - Anah Yaseen

Upper 6 Science - Kiran Muthukrishnan

Lower 6 Arts - Reanna Bakshani

Upper 6 Arts - Shakuntala Fernandopulle

Essay Prize - Felix Deemer



## **Scholarships**

Umaama Hussain

Misha Miskin

Seth Jayawardane

Hithara Kuruwita

Ayyub Shaffy

Kieran Shafritz de Zoysa Scholarship

Janindu Nanayakkara

## Outstanding Achievement in the Creative &

**Performing Arts** 

Middle - Anuk Gunasekara

Senior - Kaavya Gnanam

## **Best All Rounder**

Middle - Anna Shearer

Senior - Daniel Joung

## Compassion

Rithesh Sathiyanandan

## **Best Manners**

Middle - Harrison Vogt

Senior - Kaleb Alford

## **Outstanding Achievement in Sports**

Middle - Kamille Le Berre

Senior - Nehla Farhan

## **House Trophy**

Hillary

## **Student Leaders**

Captain of School - Kaavya Gnanam Head Prefects - Riviru Pupulewatta

Varun Giritharan



## **Highest Mark in the World**

Nazia Rajkotwala - A Level Economics (99%) Hamza Anver - IGCSE Computer Science (93%)

**Anokhi Molligoda** - IGCSE English Language (100%)

Amadie Gajanaike - IGCSE Art (94%) Seth Jayawardane - IGCSE ICT (84%) Chathuri Manathunga - IGCSE Sinhala (97%)

## **Highest Mark in Asia**

**Hithara Kuruwita** - IGCSE Human Biology (91%)

## Highest Mark in Sri Lanka

Seth Jayawardane - IGCSE Biology (94%) Ruqayyah Irshadeen - IGCSE Geography (94%)

## **A Level Grade Awards**

Kiran Muthukrishnan	4 A*
Shreya Nandakumar	4 A*
Ridmika Wickramarachchi	4 A*
Felix Deemer	3 A*
Daniel Joung	3 A*

## **IGCSE Grade Awards**

Hithara Kuruwita	10 9s
Sahaara Wijithananda	10 9s
Anokhi Molligoda	9 9s
Tao Yazaki	9 9s
Zara Kulatunga	9 9s
Ruqayyah Irshadeen	8 9s
Seth Jayawardane	8 9s
Milaine Malleapah	7 9s
Shania Johnpulle	7 9s
Jazwen Prabaharan	7 9s
Migara Rodrigo	7 9s
Sanuthmi Paranagama	6 9s
Sishir Surjit	6 9s
Huzaifa Siraj	6 9s
Pasindu Wickramasinghe	6 9s
Faheem Mansoor	6 9s
Tharusha Mudalige	6 9s
Avisha Gunawardena	6 9s



## COMBO EVENTS

This year, Moir, CIS, OSC & BSC trialled a new series of mini sporting tournaments between the four schools: COMBO

















Images 1 & 2:
Form 2 Trip to the
Meteorological
Department

Images 3, 4 & 5: Form 5 Geography Field Trip

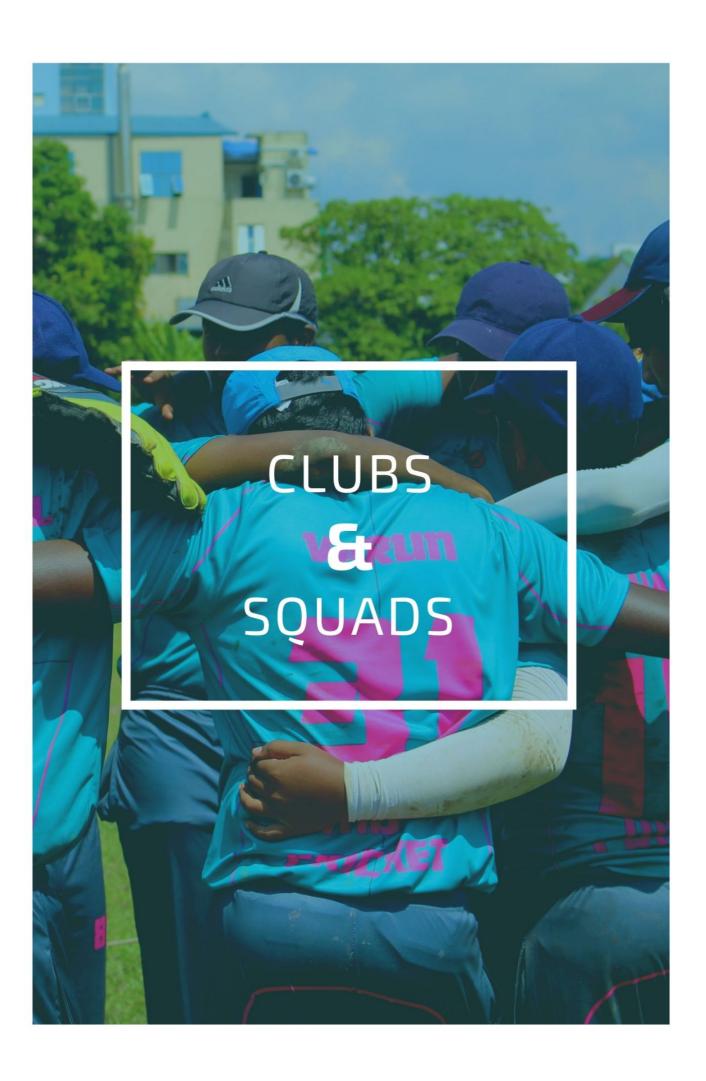












## Ghir S KAAYYA GNANAM



This year the Choir had the pleasure of participating in the Royal College Festival of Choirs, where we performed an ambitious medley of songs from "West Side Story" and "Grease" and "Seasons of Love." The event was the highlight of the year for the choir and gave the members an opportunity to bond with each other as well as build confidence for future performances like Inter House Music, where many choristers took the lead, performing, arranging and conducting choral music. Moreover, the choristers performed a Grease medley at the Junior school which was received brilliantly by the younger students, ultimately becoming one of the most fun and memorable experiences of the year. In the final term, we worked on creating a virtual Chamber Choir tribute, and a larger virtual choir video for Founders' Day.



This year the Dance Club focused on Contemporary Dance and Freestyle Dance. Exploring these styles allowed us to learn new skills and grow as dancers. We learned a lot about being free with how we move and the art of connecting each move in a routine. Most of the members also took part in the Inter House Music "Group Dance" category and the musical West Side Story. Participating in these events helped us to get more comfortable and confident performing on stage.

# Press Glub REANNA BAKSHANI

From writing opinion pieces, to sharing our ideas on how to change the world we live in, to imagining completely new realities in creative writing, Press Club and The Moir Post have given us the chance to make our voices heard. Reporting and photographing every school event has made us more engaged in the school community while various writing workshops have allowed us to refine our writing skills. Not forgetting the many fun writing games and activities we've played through club meetings. Press Club has overall had an extremely exciting and engaging year.

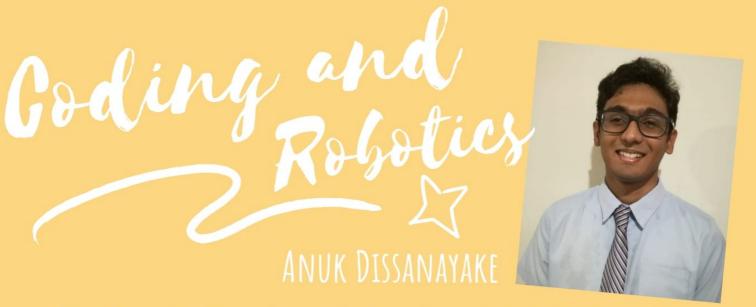
## Community Service A JAMAAL BISHRI

As we near the gates of The Boy's Home, a boy up in a tree waves energetically at us while mischievously tossing a mango, eager for yet another afternoon to spend with us. A few of us, a hundred yards away at The Elders Home, rejoice as we see a smile slowly form on a grandmother's wrinkly face as she catches sight of our group approaching. We can't wait to spend time with her again and hear her stories. After a busy day at school, nothing else could be more fulfilling than being involved in the community around us.

#TheCommunityServiceClub



We started this year by learning and exploring immersive theatre. This form of interactive theatre taught us to think on our feet and pushed us to be creative as it requires the performer to engage with and respond to the audience during the performance. We also learned about drama as a form of therapeutic play and then moved on to learning about writing, creating and performing monologues.



Our clubs explore the various applications of present day technology and how to better manipulate these machinery in unique scenarios. Members of the Junior Robotics Club learn the fundamentals of coding and utilize their imagination to build robots using Lego Mindstorms. Senior Robotics Club focuses more on a combination of mechanical engineering and programming to design, assemble and code Arduino robotic cars and other contraptions. The Coding club spends their time learning how to use languages such as Python and C# for various applications of programming through a series of puzzling activities and pizza competitions.



The Orchestra has always been a great ensemble that allows us to showcase our musical talents. This year's highlights included incorporating members of the orchestra in the musical West Side Story, performing at Inter House Music and musical assemblies in Senior and Junior school. The club encourages individuals to collaborate with each other to build confidence. We work together as a supportive, dedicated family to bring out the best versions of ourselves when we perform.



The past year has been outstanding for Debating Club, having gone into the Octo-finals of the N.M. Perera Tournament as the best team and Atheek Azmi winning the Best Speaker Award at Lillian Nixon Challenge Shield Tournament were only a few of our many achievements. Debating Club will continue to climb towards greater heights in the coming year and an insanely fun and exciting time awaits those that'll be joining.

# Ant Glub KANCHINI CHANDRASIRI

This year in Art Club there were really no rules restricting what material or medium you used to make your ideas come to life. We experimented with twine, wire and other recyclables and explored mediums like acrylic, watercolor and charcoal. Our most memorable moment was definitely Inter House Art and the Art Exhibition, which was a culmination of a year's worth of effort and showcased our students' talent and creativity through their beautiful artwork!



This year Chess Club focused on getting as much experience as possible in addition to improving theoretical knowledge. The members took part in a range of competitions including Inter School, rated, club and online tournaments. We are now a team of mature and enthusiastic players with higher expectations for the year to come.

# Athletics NOAH LE BERRE

The Athletics Squad is great for those who want to keep fit while also having fun. We take part in different competitions throughout the year such as the COMBO meet, the ISAC (International Schools' Athletics Competition) and the Inter House Athletics meet. We take the ISACS very seriously and train extra hard for this. We also have the coolest coach in school: Ms Dumila!





# Cricket PRANEEL JASINGHE





## RIVIRU PUPULEWATTA

This year has been one of the most successful years for Boys' Football at Moir with every age group from U14 to U20 having success at the Inter-School level. The squad has shown incredible dedication throughout the year with a challenging practice schedule. With the guidance of our excellent coaches, the squad has laid the foundations for further success in the years to come. I am proud of the incredible camaraderie the squad has shown and my highlights from the year include the U14 Inter-International Schools Tournament triumph, the middle school team winning the Munchee RAISE 6-a-side tournament and the older boys signing off with a Futsal championship at COMBO.







It has been a privilege to have captained such a wonderful group of girls this year. There have been too many memorable moments for our football team this year, including the Maldives tour. If I were to pick one it would have to be winning the U20 Girls TISSL cup for the first time in Moir history. It was a testament to the girls' hard work and teamwork. Women's Football around the world is growing massively, and the girls that have been playing alongside me will undoubtedly be part of that







# Baskethalls NIERAN PRABAHARAN

The installation of a new FIBA (International Basketball Federation) certified basketball coach along with a dedicated sports team led us to be undefeated this year. Perseverance and commitment, two long standing virtues of the basketball team, have helped mould all those who've joined the squad into disciplined and hardworking individuals. A focus on the off- the- court chemistry and personality separates us from other school teams and promotes a sense of belonging and team unity.





## Baskethall; VIDUNI DE SILVA

This year the Girls' Basketball Squad put their heart and soul into every practice, showing tireless dedication and commitment. This is evident in how much they improved over the course of the year. After losing a practice match against Wycherly, months later the Under 15 Girls Basketball Team faced the same opponent during the tournament and beat them by 20 points. Even players who had never played before improved their skills and everyone learned to play as a team.





# Swimming VARUN GIRITHARAN

We had our inaugural Moir COMBO Swimming Competition which was an excellent experience for us and a tremendous opportunity to prepare for the other meets that followed. Most of our swimmers took part in several meets throughout the year such as the Inter International Schools Swimming Meet, where many of our swimmers excelled in their events. Kithmal Amarasinghe, Linara Gunasekera and Taha Anverally were awarded medals along with the U16 boys relay team. Kithmal won all his events, thus claiming the Under 16 Boys' championship. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our coaches for their guidance and effort over the course of this year.





## FIRST GLOBAL ROBOTICS

Elizabeth Moir School sends Robotics Team to Dubai and achieves flying colours

The FIRST Global Challenge is an annual international robotics competition established in 1989 that invites teams of youth from every nation across the world to explore their passion for technology and science. The competition focuses on finding solutions to present day problems our own planet is facing including the 14 Grand Challenges of Engineering identified by the National Academy of Engineering.

Along with Richmond College in Galle, for the third consecutive year, Elizabeth Moir leaped in and earned itself a prominent place in Sri Lanka's team! The team did exceedingly well this year, reaching the finals and finishing 11th of 192 teams. Their Alliance (in which they worked with other teams to complete challenges) placed third overall and finally they won a Judge's Technical Award for the quality and craftsmanship of their robot — only three of these are awarded each year.













## THE FORM 5 COMMUNITY SERVICE TRIP

This year Form 5 visited two places for Community Service due to the vast number of students in their class: one being the Chithra Lane School for Special Children and the second being the Soup Bowl. The Chithra Lane School is a school for special children that helps over 2000 children all over Sri Lanka. With the funds that they raised at school, the Form 5's were able to help the Chithra Lane School purchase a beautiful new Table Tennis table. Over half of them went to Chithra Lane school in October 2019 and participated in many activities with the children such as singing, dancing and drawing.

Meanwhile, the rest of the grade went to The Soup Bowl, which is an organisation which hosts a lunch meal for the less fortunate every Friday. A portion of the money raised in school went into paying for the entire lunch that Friday, which fed a record 161 visitors. The Form 5's served food & water, spoke to the people there, and cleaned up afterwards.

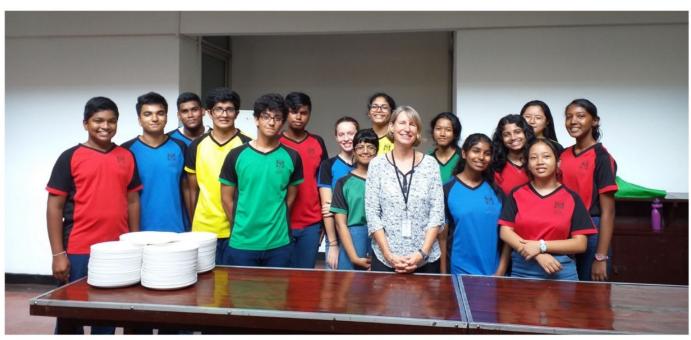
Migara Rodrigo













## INTER HOUSE SWIMMING 2019

Columbus and Fleming clash for first and second with Hillary close behind

## **Individual Championship Winners**

	Boys	Girls
Junior	Alwan Mausoom (F2)	Meher Ashique (F1)
Middle	Taha Anverally (F3)	Linara Gunasekera (F4) Pippa Fox (F4) Balgish Ahmed (F3)
Senior	Kithmal Amarasinghe (F5)	Milaine Malleapah (L6)



## Records 2019-2020

**Taha Anverally** - 200m Freestyle/ 33m Butterfly/ 133m IM

**Kithmal Amarasinghe** - 100m Freestyle/ 66m Breaststroke/ 33m Butterfly/ 33m Backstroke/ 33m Freestyle

## **House Championships**

Columbus (Boys) - 302.5 points

Fleming (Girls) - 270 points





















## **Results**

## **Kithmal Amarasinghe**

Under 16 Age group Champion 50m Butterfly Stroke 1st Place 100m Butterfly Stroke 1st Place 50m Backstroke 1st Place

## **Taha Anverally**

Under 16 Boys 100m Backstroke 2nd Place 100m Butterfly Stroke 3rd Place 200m Freestyle Stroke 4th Place

## Linara Gunasekara

Under 16 Girls 100m Freestyle 3rd Place 200m Freestyle 4th Place 50m Freestyle 4th Place

Under 16 Boys 4x50m Relay Medley Relay and Freestyle Relay 2nd Place







## KOSLANDA TRIP



From the 24th to the 26th of October 2019, several sixth formers travelled to Living Heritage Koslanda to take part in reforesting as well as raising awareness and initiating sustainable schemes among local communities. Dozens of trees were planted and items such as cloth bags and metal bottles (alternatives to plastic) were donated to local school children





The best part of the Koslanda trip was being able to use different methods of conveying the importance of environment conservation in the simplest of ways - environment themed games, videos, drawing pictures - so that each child felt empowered to make a difference

- Anokhi Molligoda





It was a lot of fun to be able to spend time with our friends, and we felt extra independent getting to spend a full ten days without our parents in a foreign country. It was daunting to try to speak French at first, but we slowly gained some confidence and learned a lot of new vocabulary.

The food was constantly amazing and our stomachs felt heavy towards the end of the trip. One particularly memorable dish was escargot – snails! To our surprise, they tasted delicious!

We visited many places such as the Eiffel Tower, the Arc de Triomphe and the Louvre. It was interesting to see these famous sites that we have learnt about in class – they were even more breath-taking and beautiful in real life.

A highlight of our trip was our visit to Disneyland where we enjoyed a day of thrilling rides that made our hair stand on end. The only downside was that our feet ached after walking for hours. We met many welcoming and interesting people along the way who not only showed us around Paris and made us feel at home but helped us further develop our knowledge of the French language.

The French Trip was filled with learning opportunities, a chance to make friends, try new food and experience French culture. All the students enjoyed it immensely thanks to the efforts of Madame Telliez and Miss Shohani who never failed to remind us to wear our caps or to send us back to our rooms in the middle of the night.

We will undoubtedly look back on this trip with a fond smile and a laugh and we will treasure our experiences and memories for years to come.

Miyu Otsuki & Savaira Sammoon

















## THE UPPER 6TH COMMUNITY SERVICE TRIP

This year, the Upper 6s visited the Tiny Stars Montessori in Dehiwala, Mount Lavinia for their Community Service Trip.

Funds were raised through a bake sale, face painting and photo booth. The money was spent on buying electric fans, tambourines, a guitar, a present for each student at the daycare, and snacks that included butter cakes, biscuits and Milos. Through the project, we realized that the daycare provides a vital service in educating young, under-privileged children and ensuring that simplicity makes the children happy and grateful.

When we arrived at the daycare, we engaged in activities like face painting, art and craft, musical chairs, and 'pass the pillow' with the children. It was uplifting to see the children elated to play games and have their faces painted. Despite the minor language barrier, we developed strong bonds with the children and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The trip served as an eye opener in illustrating how small acts of kindness are never wasted.

Overall, the trip was an immense success and we were blissful to leave the children with a memorable experience. We were also inspired to get involved in more acts of generosity and kindness.

Manilkka Udugampola & Simra Riyaz













## CONTRASTS & SIMILARITIES

On the 24th of September at 4:30 pm, the Lionel Wendt Art Gallery came alive with the colorful and creative art pieces painted and created by the talented students of the senior school. The chief guest at the exhibition was Prof. Robert Meeder, the CEO of AOD. The theme for this year's Art Exhibition was 'We Are One' and the theme for the Inter House Art competition was 'Contrasts and Similarities' which aligned with the overall theme of the exhibition which was unity and positivity. The pieces featured a variety of media from portraits and photography to digital artwork and paintings. Each art piece was a true demonstration of the students' creativity and dedication. All four of the houses displayed equal prowess. A vast amount of emotion and several messages were portrayed through the creative art pieces.

The entire atmosphere of the exhibition was phenomenal and magical. The art pieces spoke a thousand unspoken words. It conveyed important messages like focusing on change, acceptance and moving forward. The main aim of this exhibition was to spread unity and positivity through art.

Amani Kalam







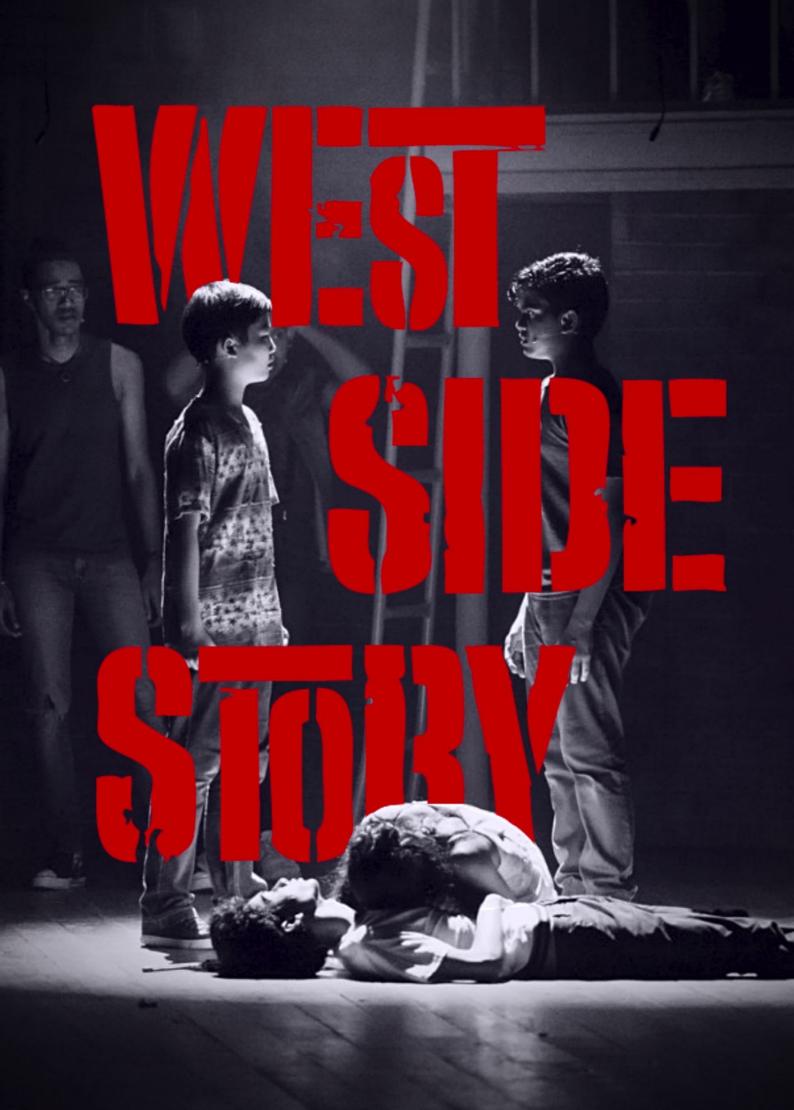


BEST OVERALL HOUSE: ARMSTRONG
BEST INTERPRETATION OF THE TOPIC: ARMSTRONG
BEST INDIVIDUAL ARTIST (SENIOR): MALAAK HASHIM
BEST INDIVIDUAL ARTIST (MIDDLE): UMAAMA HUSSAIN





















## CAST

TONY Leeth Singhage

MARIA Serika Siriwardhana

RIFF Anuk Gunasekara

ANITA Kaavya Gnanam & Gaeun Kim

BERNADO Aidan Thorstensen

Lt. SCHRANK Rumi Nagpal

CHINO Sahiru Randunu

ROSALIA ..... Anokhi Molligoda

CONSUELO Arshana Welivita

KRUPKE Aamir Saleem

**DOC** Sahaara Wijithananda

GLAD HAND Kanchini Chandrasiri

**FRANCISCA** \_\_\_\_ Aneeha De Silva

**TERESITA** Tiara Perera

ESTELLA Seravi Harris

**GRAZIELLA** Anna Shearer

**VELMA** Skye Mahlburg

## **JETS**

**ACTION** Tae Hyun Won

**A-RAB** Atheek Azmi

**BABY JOHN** Avlok Wignaraja

SNOW BOY Naren Hattotuwa

BIG DEAL Jeffry Withanachchi

DIESAL Sarah Benjamin

ANYBODYS Khaya Umagiliya & Louisa

Deemer

TIGER Ronali De Silva

**GEE-TAR** Esme McGuire

MINNIE Philippa Fox

CLARICE Shania Abeyewardene

PAULINE Adithya Abeyewardene

Savaira Sammoon

Sara Wahid

## **SHARKS**

SHARKS

**ANXIOUS** 

**NIBBLES** 

MARGARITA

**JUANO** 

TORO.

**PEPE** Hathim Asgerally INDIO Tharusha Mudali

IDIO Tharusha Mudalige

LUIS ..... Zikra Zuhree

Lana Jaleel

Venuja Mudalige

Nashmoon Sheena

Videesha Perera

videestid Ferei

Hannah Elias

Mumuksa Sandrasagara

Anuji Gurusinghe

Khadeejah Irishad

Hannah Nallathamby

Avari De Silva

Methuli Bandara

Upekha Gunawansa

Savani Danangoda-Gamage



## FOOTBALL 2019/20

This year our footballers have never ceased to make us proud, winning several championships and tournament awards between them. The girls displayed extraordinary teamwork, camaraderie and training, winning all their tournaments this year. The U20 team won the Inter International Schools (IIS) Tournament and Team Captain Nehla Farhan won Best Player while Niara Wijeyasinghe won Best Striker. Meanwhile, the U14 team also won their IIS Tournament and Seneli Jayawardena achieved Best Striker while Eleonore Liyanage won Best Defender. Their streak of success continued with the COMBO Futsal Tournament where both the Senior and Junior Squads won their championships 1-0 vs. Overseas School and British School respectively. Amazingly, the Girls Senior Squad didn't concede a single goal in the entire season! The boys also displayed great skill in a series of impressive matches. The squad came close to tournament triumph on two occasions, with the Middle School boys becoming runners-up at their COMBO Futsal Tournament and the U20 boys finishing second runners-up in the Munchee Raise 6-a-side Tournament. The U16, U18 and U20 teams all reached the quarter finals of their IIS Tournaments and despite losing narrowly in penalties, they all displayed great sportsmanship and certainly did the school proud. The U14 team won the IIS Tournament, going through the entire competition undefeated and the U17 boys were the Munchee Raise 6a-side Tournament champions for a second straight year! The Senior boys also achieved ultimate success, emerging undefeated champions at the COMBO Futsal Tournament.

Savaira Sammoon













The International School's Athletics Championship (ISAC) took place on the 14th, 15th and 16th of February at the Sugathadasa Grounds. The Moir Athletics squad had been training very hard for months with the help and support of coaches Ms. Dumila and Mr. Shaun and were determined to give an outstanding performance. Events that they took part in ranged from track events such as 100m and 400m to field events such as long jump and high jump. Our outgoing Athletics Captain, Noah Le Berre, at what was his last ISAC Meet, secured a bronze medal for his event - the 100m. Moreover, several of our Athletes were chosen as finalists for multiple events throughout the tournament. Well done to all our athletes for their amazing commitment and performances!

#### Navendra Marcelline

## INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS' ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP 2020















# THE FORM 3 COMMUNITY SERVICE TRIP

Form 3 visited the Shilpas Girls' home in Nawala this year for their Community Service Project. They raised Rs. 81, 168 for this visit by organizing a bake sale, photo booth and a henna painting booth. With this money they gifted each girl a package which contained a Rs. 2,000 voucher for DI shoes, hair ribbons, hair elastics and bands, cream, oil and powder, chocolate slabs, and soap. The Shilpa Girls Home was also gifted a carom board, badminton rackets, a pack of shuttlecocks, coloured pencils, rice packets and other food items. The girls also enjoyed a feast of pizza and milk packs that we arranged for them that evening. Form 3 students had a great time playing many games with the girls such as musical chairs, carom, badminton and singing and dancing. They also drew and coloured with the girls which was very therapeutic for all.

Migara Rodrigo



# THE LOWER 6 COMMUNITY SERVICE TRIP

















# MUSIC

Elizabeth Moir Senior School's Inter House Music and Dance was held at Park Street Mews at The Stables on the 31st of January 2020. Group Song was won by Columbus with a brilliant performace of 'Teo Torriatte', 'I Want to Break Free', 'Under Pressure' and 'Bohemian Rhapsody' for their Queen Medley and 'Lean On Me' by Bill Withers. Armstrong's Leeth Singhage and Umaama Hussain won duet singing 'You Are the Reason' by Calum Scott and 'Marvin Gaye' by Charlie Puth and Meghan Trainor. The Group Instrumental win went to Fleming playing 'A Million Dreams' from The Greatest Showman and 'Shape Of You' by Ed Sheeran and Group Dance was won by Hillary with the songs 'Mama' by Ella Eyre, Banx and Ranx ft. Kiana Ledé, 'Senorita' by (G)I-DLE and 'Iski Uski' by Akriti Kakar and Shahid Mallya. Overall, IH Music was won by Armstrong. The night ended with all the houses winning a category.















































For someone who initially joined Model United Nations (MUN) purely to wear a sari and make memories, I was only disappointed in one aspect: Sri Lanka Model United Nations (SLMUN) 2019 didn't allow the delegates to wear saris. However, the two-day conference made up for the lack of glittery fabric and earrings by creating an environment for us to participate in some great debates as delegates, write articles as journalists, run the backstage show as admins and finally, control the whole conference as Executive Committee members. Some of our delegates were also allowed to visit behind the scenes of Port City and view the building blocks that will come together to build a \$1.5 billion metropolis. Four of our 22-member delegation won awards, and almost all our novice delegates participated in debate. Colombo Model United Nations (COMUN) 2020 was possibly even more memorable, with three practice debates scattered through January and February, and the final three-day conference taking place in early March. Two days of competitive debate culminated with the final day taking place at the Taj Samudra Hotel, where the very large 34member Moir delegation wrapped up COMUN 2020 with a chaotic and momentous crisis session, a chance to meet Kumar Sangakkara and six more awards, with four delegates and two journalists winning trophies and medals. At the beginning of this academic year, a few of our senior delegates also took part in National Youth MUN (NYMUN) 2019 and Lyceum International School MUN (LISMUN) 2019. With several whirlwinds of conferences, we were very lucky and grateful to have Ms. Ravini and Ms. Linda overseeing us, and, of course, Ms. Srimali, who hurried us around and

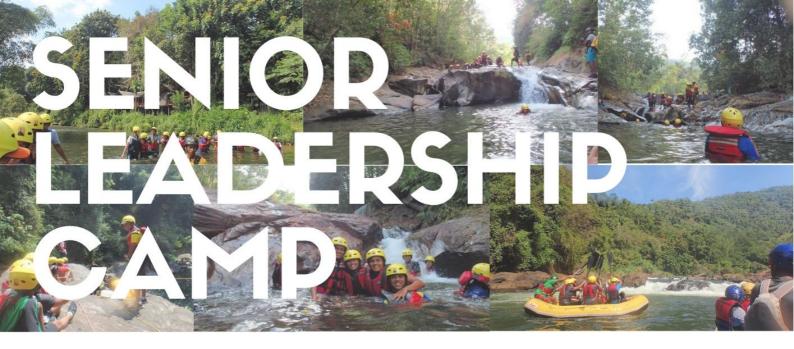
pinned up our saris and took photos whenever she could, so later we could look back on these memorable conferences and smile.

#### Kavya Chandrasiri









This year's Senior Leadership Camp took place on the 10th and 11th of January at Borderlands Kitulgala. Fifty five students from Form 5 and the Lower 6th participated in the camp, which was designed to give students the opportunity to learn how to embrace leadership and teamwork, and discover how the two values go together.

Upon arrival, we went straight to the river. We were first taught how to trust each other in the water, and then how to raft. Afterwards we were split into ten teams and went to ride the rapids. Each team got to make up a team name, and we had fun splashing the other boats with our oars between rapids. Only a few people fell off the boats! After a brief pause back at the camp to assign rooms and have lunch, we set off again to go canoeing. At the end of the day, we got to float back to camp watching the beautiful sun set above us.

On the second day, we were late to rise and were therefore sent on an early morning run and an ice cold river swim before breakfast! After breakfast, we set off to Marvel Canyon for another day of canoeing which ended with a 10M jump! We were taught how to jump safely and after some hesitation, many of us overcame our fear and jumped. Mostly everyone jumped correctly, but those who jumped wrong were met with a painful slap from the water! Those that remained were given the option to zip line or abseil down.

The trip was a great success, and we all enjoyed the chance to connect with the world through nature and not through a screen. We are grateful to the Borderlands staff, and to our teachers – Mr Prakash, Mr Kevin, Mrs Gunawansa, Miss Srimali, Mrs Chandrasekere and Mrs Galapitage – for looking after us. As always, much appreciation goes to Mrs. Moir and Mr. Shearer for making unforgettable opportunities like this one, a reality.









Krsana Bakshani

# ENEMM

**OF THE** 

PEOPLE

# 'AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE': OUR TAKE ON THE SEARCH FOR REALITY AGAINST A PERCEIVED TRUTH

An acclaimed theatrical work that continues to have immense relevance today, 'An Enemy of the People', written by Arthur Miller, and adapted from Henrik Ibsen's brilliant play, takes an unflinching look at the obstacles and opposition faced by anyone who stands by an inconvenient truth. The students of Elizabeth Moir School engaged in an intense rehearsal process and brought Ibsen's challenging play to life in early March.

Dr Stockmann - Leeth Singhage
Peter Stockmann - Rivi Wijesekera
Catherine Stockmann - Uma Sandrasagra
Petra Stockmann - Zikra Zuhuree
Ejlif Stockmann - Avlok Wignaraja
Morten Stockmann - Ammar Rishad
Hovstad - Tienn Kapilasena
Billing - Dylan Wilson

**Billing** - Dylan Wilson **Aslaksen** - Rumi Nagpal **Morten** - Anuk Siyambalapitiya

Captain Horster - Savith Wijesundara

Drunk protestor - Alwan Mausoom

**ENSEMBLE:** Skye Mahlburg, Sarah Benjamin, Hathim Asgerally, Venuja Mudalige, Sidra Rifai, Amaya Wijayawardana, Juha Kim, Rajindu Normanbhoy, Annika Perera, Khaya Umagiliya, Riyana Wijesuriya









## INTROSPECTION IN ISOLATION

We thought that this was the Anthropocene, the first ever epoch we started as a species. We thought that the fate of the Earth rested in our hands. We all thought that we would make 2020 our year. Well we were wrong.

If you told me last year that a virus would compel me to question the human condition, I would have dismissed it as some sick joke. We only had 13 months left to reverse the effects of climate change from the start of 2020 but today we can be assured that ecosystems are on a steady start towards recovery whereas the frayed threads of society are unraveling into anarchy.

We all love to believe that humanity's ascent of the evolutionary ladder has freed us from the clutches of natural selection. I don't want to disagree with Darwin either, but if you expect a superior species to cower behind scientists in a battle against bacteria's increasing resistance to antibiotics, it's no surprise that our struggle with a virus—let alone CoViD 19- won't be easy to overcome. And if we stain a culture with stereotypes so often that it can no longer wash them off, or risk losing an entire generation we consider disposable to a pandemic that governments were too opportunistic to foresee, aren't we just channeling our animalism through our words instead of having the audacity to act them out?

The CoViD-19 pandemic is truly a watershed moment for Generation Z. Despite being the first digitally native generation, we will encounter problems if we are forced to integrate technology into every aspect of our lives. At first they might seem to be trivial: imagine learning about indices until a peer asks your math teacher about logarithms. You're not baffled for long because you suddenly lose your internet connection but the next minute you're back in class you can't comprehend what a Canadian hockey team's got to do with mathematics (it's Euler's number by the way, not the Edmonton Oilers').

Unfortunately, our sedentary lifestyle revolving on a screen also means that we're more likely to access negative information—be it true or false— that can be too overwhelming to bear when you're immured in isolation.

Somehow the internet and automation don't seem so fun after all. As we are forced to rely on convenience rather than taking the tedious path of toiling for our goals—corona or no corona—has humanity's main purpose of life been to lose purpose in survival? Is nihilism nature's carousel that distracts us from unleashing catastrophe to other life forms, even worse than climate change? I guess we were too good to submit to the survival of the fittest.

The true brutality of CoViD 19 has to be its promise of an uncertain future. In a system where we still seek validation through some grades on a piece of a paper, the aspirations of millions of students have been crushed after years of fruitless endeavour. With half of the world without Internet access the absence of onsite learning will take a huge toll on our generation as we are deprived from the validation to contribute in keeping the shambles of our planet intact. But as we encounter life's conundrums, our courage for introspection and empathy never fails to help us—so don't get offended if we're called the Snowflake generation. Take "social distancing" for example. Some exploit the term to stigmatize vulnerable compeers while individualists seize the opportunity to indulge in blissful ignorance. If we also have the ability to tamper with the fragile social construct of vocabulary, we will realize that we can fill those empty words with good intentions. Though physically apart we are a social species, thus we can never comply to social distancing. We will always find ways to break down borders and while we can't always rely on technology, we can strengthen our connections by telling more stories to add layers of colour and deepen the masterpiece we paint which is the human perspective.

I have so many questions... where did CoViD 19 begin—in the wet markets or in a laboratory away from the hubbub of communities? Is this pandemic a biological weapon intended to catalyse world domination by a superpower or is it a lesson from God or whatever higher force to not tamper with the intended course of nature? It's easy to get lost in your subconscious thoughts when you are bored by the familiarity of your home. It's difficult to convince yourself to be grateful at the expense of others' suffering. Chaos will only ensue if we are fueled by fear, because if CoViD 19 taught us anything it's that the smallest things can lead to the biggest consequences. Only empathy and trust will propel us forward during these trying times. The longer you are left in the dark, the more likely you are to find a source of light.



### LOCKDOWN



#### 11:30

Wake up and think about how nice of a day it will be. Remember that there is a pandemic. Roll over and go back to sleep.

#### 12:30

Wake up for real this time. Go into the kitchen. Open the fridge and stand there for 10 minutes, examining the old leftovers. Decide to eat the same breakfast that you've had for the past 20 days: dry cereal and nutella with a spoon.

#### 12:45

Turn on the TV to CNN because you promised yourself, at midnight last night, that you would use lockdown to become a more educated, worldly person.

#### 12:46

Switch the channel to Cartoon Network because the news is too disturbing.

#### 1:30

Jolt out of your lethargy because you just remembered that you had an online class that started at 12:00.

#### 1:32

Frantically attempt to join the class video call before giving up because life is futile and the class will soon be over anyway. Return to watching TV.

#### 2:00

Spend 20 minutes scrolling through Twitter before finding a recipe for a lockdown sandwich (a sandwich that can be made with any assortment of condiments and vegetables)

#### 2:04

Proclaim to yourself and to your half-asleep cat that you are going to start being healthy, and that you will make the lockdown sandwich for lunch, instead of having popcorn as usual. Your cat does not respond.

#### 2:15

Organize your bread, strange-smelling mustard, and cherry tomatoes on the counter. Think about how much you don't like tomatoes.

#### 2:17

Decide that a popcorn sandwich is also technically a sandwich, and is therefore part of your new health plan.

#### 2.18

Realize that carbs are bad, so a sandwich without bread is even healthier than a regular sandwich.

#### 2:21

Make popcorn and sit in front of the TV. Skip past the news because you're pretty sure that in the hour and a half that you've been away from CNN, the pandemic has not suddenly and unexpectedly ended.

#### 3:00

Begin to feel the crushing guilt of not having done anything the entire day. Email the teacher of the class that you missed, to get the classwork that you were not about to do, due to being 'sick' (but not coronavirus sick, just I-need-an-excuse sick).

#### 3:20

Start the assignment that your teacher emailed you. Realize that you're very tired from all the things you did that afternoon. Take a nap.

#### 5:20

Wake up, with the overwhelming guilt and feelings of usetessness weighing on you once again. Recall an article that said that taking showers helps with mental health. Fail to remember the last time you took a shower. Decide that self care and mental health are more important than school, and take a shower.

#### 5:40

Actually start the assignment this time. Come to the realization that it was actually an extremely easy assignment and that you were stressed out for no reason.

#### 5:50

Contemplate as to whether the assignment was actually really easy, or whether you're actually just a really smart person, and that it took a global pandemic to uncover your hidden intellect.

#### 6:00

Begin to feel awful again because, due to your newfound wisdom, the assignment only took 10 minutes and that means that you have only had 10 productive minutes in your whole day so far.

#### 6:04

Come to the conclusion that all will be okay, but only if you spend the next hour reading an educational book.

#### 6:06

Discover that the only moderately educational books you have in your house are an Oxford English Dictionary and a Science textbook that you lost in Form Two, and then found again 6 months ago.

#### 6:25

Remember how cool plants are. I mean, photosynthesis is so crazy. The carbon dioxide and water goes in and oxygen, glucose, and ATP just comes out? Insane!

#### 6:26

Start thinking about how you haven't eaten since lunch. In fact, you are so hungry that you are starting to reconsider the lockdown sandwich. Arrive at the conclusion that 19 minutes of reading is just as good as an hour of reading, and that you can't pay attention to the textbook if you're hungry anyway. That is why you should order food now, and finish the textbook later.

#### 6:30

Spend 20 minutes looking through various delivery menus, before settling on the old regular: McDonald's. Mostly because you love your fries with ketchup, and tomato ketchup is essentially tomatoes, which you are 90% sure is a superfood. Regardless, you need a balanced meal and burgers include the main 4 food groups: superfoods, cheese-like substances, burger patties, and sesame seed buns. Scroll through Netflix until the food arrives.

#### 7:15

Answer the delivery guy's phone call, announcing his arrival, and then scramble to find a face mask to wear for the food hand-off.

#### 7:16

Settle on holding a facecloth over your nose and mouth because the delivery guy probably doesn't have the virus, right?

#### 7:20

Start hyperventilating when the delivery guy breathes in your general direction because maybe he does, in fact, have the virus.

#### 7:23

Sit in front of the TV and watch Netflix until your eyes physically can not stay open a moment longer.

#### 2:13

Reach the point at which your eyes physically cannot stay open a moment longer.

#### 2:14

As you reach to turn off your bedside lamp, see the Science textbook out of the corner of your eye and promise to finish reading it tomorrow because today was a rest-day and tomorrow you will get back to studying properly, because you need to properly utilize this break.

#### 2:15

Fall asleep immediately due to pure exhaustion.

Rinse

Repeat

-NORA DEEMER

# HOPE: A WAKING DREAM

Many months ago we were normal. People bustled around going about their business, schools were in session with exams nearing students, politicians debated hot topics with churning, fiery egos.. Our eyes were glued to our phones, glued to social media, glued to billions of other people.

Many months ago, humans were essentially hamsters trapped in an infinite loop, always running. Then China recorded its first slew of cases of an unknown yet peculiar virus. Now, the hamster wheels are broken and the earth has spun off its axis. Now, the world is affected, dazed from the punch this pandemic has thrown at us.

To me, it seems as if someone has slapped me awake, dragged me off my bed and pulled me out of an ocean of dreams. Things changed very quickly, too swift to process. Schools shut down, giants like the USA were hit heavily, the economy was at a standstill. Quarantine. The fear of being confirmed positive, trapped alone on a hospital bed with many other patients, confined. Lockdown.

The situation scared the life out of me. My family and I, under lockdown. My father was abroad and with the airports shut down, we feared for his safety. The nightmare of fear and anxiety was in the air.

To dull the pain, smother the fear, there were people to help us. Soldiers of the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, were stationed across the region, arresting stragglers who disobeyed the curfew, protecting the streets of Sri Lanka, protecting us. The deliverymen, those who delivered food and groceries to our front door, risking their lives in the open. The farmers who were the main supply of food - our lifeline - were also on uneven ground.

The doctors and nurses, they watched over the patients like guardians perched on their shoulders, trying their utmost to save the innocent lives of our people; all the while putting their own necks on the line.

It is a wonderful thing...the spirit of compassion - unrivalled, unbroken. Fear seems to be limitless. But at a time like this we can find renewal. The past few months have given me the chance to achieve calm. I have taken the opportunity to reflect and to settle. Left alone with my family, the ones who are the most vital to me, I also worry about my classmates, who are my life's blood, and my teachers, who I can't stop thinking about. At times like this, as we come face to face with Death's unwavering gaze, we ask ourselves 'Have I been good?', 'Have I been a good student?' 'Have I been a wonderful friend?', 'Have I been the best son I could ever be?'

When we pull open the curtains in the early morning, look up to the earth's ceiling, observe the striking blue of Mother Earth's hand, we are reminded that hope will always be alongside us. Regardless of the situation, no matter how bleak, how dark our lives are, humanity will find a way.

I believe this virus has shown us the reality of pain, grief and suffering but it has given us a golden time in which to live in serene solace, A time to acknowledge the beauty of every new day, to become more compassionate, and more hopeful.

I believe that you and I have changed for the better.

-WANGEES JAYASEKARA

# A CONTEMPORARY PLAGUE COVID-19 ACCORDING TO CAMUS - LOVE AND ABSURDITY IN THE TIME OF A PANDEMIC

The recent arrival of the Covid-19 pandemic, which has ravaged even the wealthiest, most urbanized cities, recalls French philosopher Albert Camus's novel "La Peste", or "The Plague." Camus details the soulless, modern city of Oran in French-occupied Algeria during the 1940s through the eyes of Doctor Rieux, modelled after Camus himself. The busy, acquisitive citizens of Oran live in urban glamour, unable to grasp the nature of the coming plague. They proceed to fall ill and die, until almost half of the city's population has been buried. Even as an epidemic seizes Oran, people believe themselves protected by modern society and cannot accept that they have succumbed to an "obsolete" pestilence:

"It is impossible it should be the plague; everyone knows that has vanished from the West."

The citizens of Oran, like the global community during Covid-19, do not at first believe in pestilence. The people are convinced that it is impossible and unreal, so they continued life as usual. Why should they consider the plague, which negates the future? They are modern and free. Intriguingly, it is the slum-dwellers on the city's periphery who are the first to anticipate the plague. Why? Because the poor and destitute are always anticipating the possibility of sudden death, which the rich and bureaucratic believe they are immune to. In the novel, even as five hundred people are buried every day, the people of Oran imagine reasons why they themselves will not succumb. Doctor Rieux muses, "Pestilence is so common, there have been as many plagues in the world as there have been wars, yet plagues and wars always find people equally unprepared." Eventually, the plague ebbs away, much to the delight of the citizens who believe normality will soon be restored. However, Camus argues with ominous finality, this will certainly not be the case.

According to Camus, plagues are merely manifestations of a perpetual, universal truth that, no matter how insulated we feel by modern civilization, we are all vulnerable to being randomly exterminated; our lives are fundamentally at the precipice of what he termed "the absurd."

Camus explains that recognising this absurdity should not lead us to despair and hopelessness, but be the start of a redemptive tragi-comic perspective that there is no progressive pattern in history, nor is there an escape from our fragility, because being alive will always have death as an inescapable "underlying condition." This is why, according to Camus, we must find peace with this realization and love our fellow humans, working towards the mitigation and amelioration of suffering.

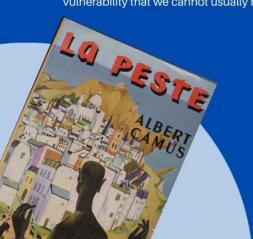
Like the people of Oran before the plague, we naively assumed we were in control. Like us, the people of Oran believed the plague was an obsolete menace that cannot afflict "modern people" such as themselves. "Yes, everyone believed that," Camus adds sardonically, "except the dead."

In the novel, Doctor Rieux posits, "The whole thing is not about heroism; it is about decency. It may seem a ridiculous idea, but the only way to fight the plague is with decency."

When asked what he meant by decency, Doctor Rieux answers, "In general, I cannot say, but I know in my case that it consists in doing my job."

As the Covid pandemic progresses, are we not obligated to maintain our decency and do our jobs, even if our only job now is staying isolated? As Camus explains, we must learn to love and aid others, and to appreciate everyday life in all its mundanity, just as Doctor Rieux relishes dancing, love, music, the scent of flowers, and the colours at sunset. Covid 19 shows us our inescapable human condition, which Camus also identified: the fundamental and omnipresent vulnerability that we cannot usually bear to remember.

-CHIRANI SILVA



# A MESSAGE-LET YOUR PLANET RECOVER



He lifted his arms up and down through the air Sending ripples through the river of spilled sunlight, that was his golden hair.

Copper eyelashes curtained amber eyes and pure white wings shadowed opal skies

Everything about his appearance was golden But his intentions, he knew, were nowhere as fair; vengeance was the path that he had chosen

Leaping flames beneath his cauldron cast dancing shadows across his face

And incandesced the clusters of apothecary bottles that crowded his workplace.

His magical juice tinted azure as he spilled contents from a bottle whose label read

'The dolphin who choked on your plastic bag's bottled gasped last breath'

From white to yellow to gold, brown and black, the bubbling broth changed colour

As ingredients were added, like 'tears from mother earth, who you have let suffer.'

Each component was a token of all the ways humanity has brought our world into disorder.

His magical creation was finally completed with three stirs anti-clockwise

Removing his wooden spoon from the cauldron, the potion had crystallized.

Out through the shards of charcoaled glass crawled slimy wings and beady eyes.

The angel sent his cauldron creature off to earth with a kiss goodbye

Knowing sadly that the cruel humans below him, as per his

Would inevitably eat the creature as bat fritters, fries or flan.

"I'm sorry I had to do this," his silvery voice called out, "but it was the only way.

At your human hands, animals and your planet have been dying, day by day.

All the things you've ruined are now coming back to ruin you. To save your planet, creating a pandemic, I felt, was the only thing I could do.

At least now you'll listen; so many times my message fell through.

Finally learn to treat your planet with respect As you now stay home to repent."

-REANNA BAKSHANI